

REMARKS

Request for examination of the application in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein as well as the response filed October 14, 2004 is respectfully requested. By the present response, claims 1-14 are pending. Claims 12 and 13 have been amended and claims 15-21 have been canceled. The amendments are made to correct simple typographical errors at the request of the Examiner on 4/5/2000 (paper 3, page 3). Support for the forgoing amendments can be found at the following location in the original disclosure: column 12 lines 15-25.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.21

The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed February 14, 2005 informed Applicant that the amendment document filed on October 14, 2004 is non-compliant for failing to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.121. Specifically, the listing of the claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) and each claim has not been provided with a proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified.

Claims 15-21 were canceled with entry of the March 15, 2001 Amendment. However, these claims and their status ("Canceled") were not included in the claims listing submitted with the October 14, 2004 Amendment and Reply. Applicant hereby submits a corrected listing of all claims. The proper status identifiers are included with each claim. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(h), only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document is currently submitted.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims now stand ready and in condition for allowance. Early consideration of the above amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant does not believe that any fees or additional extensions of time are required in conjunction with this submission. However, in the event that any additional extension of time is necessary to prevent the abandonment of this patent application, then such extension of time is hereby petitioned. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in conjunction with this submission to Deposit Account Number 50-2228, referencing matter number 020728.0101PTUS.

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